

A2 is selected from crop plants.

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A3 14. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 12, wherein said genetic modification comprises inhibiting the expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of AtST2a, AtST2b and functional homologues of AtST2a or of AtST2b.

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A4 17. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 12, wherein said plant is transgenic.

18. (Amended) A cut flower from the genetically modified plant of claim 12.

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A5 27. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said plant is transgenic.

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A6 31. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 29, wherein said genetic modification comprises increasing the expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of AtST2a, AtST2b and functional homologues of AtST2a or AtST2b.

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A7 33. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 29, wherein said plant is transgenic.

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A8 39. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of

98 [ 39. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of ]  
cont claim 36, wherein the hydroxyjasmonic acid  
sulfotransferase is of *Arabidopsis thaliana* origin.

40. (Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid  
molecule of claim 36.

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99 42. (Amended) A transgenic plant comprising the nucleic  
acid molecule of claim 36.

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910 47. (Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the  
hydroxyjasmonic acid sulfotransferase is a 11- or a 12-  
hydroxyjasmonic acid sulfotransferase.

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911 50. (Amended) An antibody binding with affinity to a  
polypeptide as defined in claim 48.

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#### REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending in this application, with Claims  
1, 12, 19, 29, 34, 36, 40, 43, 45, 48 and 50 being  
independent. Claims 9, 11, 14, 17, 18, 27, 31, 33, 39,  
40, 42, 47 and 50 have been amended in this Preliminary  
Amendment to remove all multiple dependencies.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment places  
the application in condition for allowance, and request  
prompt issuance of a Notice thereof. However, if the